



**DEPARTMENT HEAD MONTHLY REPORTS TO THE TOWN MANAGER
SEPTEMBER, 2007**

ASSESSOR: Submitted by David Utakis

There is optimism in this fall air as the Red Sox made it to the playoffs, the Patriots keep on winning, the Federal Reserve Board dropped the interest rate, and the stock market hit new heights.

Some of the backlog of houses and condominiums that were on the market has been sold. We still have 120 single family homes and 41 condominiums on the market which is slightly less than in July. It remains a buyers market and mortgage money is available for qualified buyers. People seem to be cautiously optimistic about the housing market which drives the valuation of everyone's home for tax purposes.

The new valuations for FY2008 will be set soon. They may not be as low as some folks expect. Contrary to what local residents may have read or seen on television, the real estate market here has not been decimated. This year's decline has been around 5% which will not be reflected in valuations until FY2009.

I look forward to an assessor association conference Oct. 9 that features a course on appraisals in a declining market. There will be other assessor courses on leases and capitalization rates, CAMA software, and personal property valuation.

A recent Massachusetts Department of Revenue program entitled "What's new in municipal law" featured information on recent legislation and court decisions. Of primary concern to this office was a major piece of legislation dealing with classified forest, farm and recreational lands. We have more than 75 families or organizations who take advantage of reduced valuations allowed for classified land.

Among the many changes in the legislation is the duration of the town's right of first refusal when a property owner decides to sell classified land for residential, commercial or industrial use or convert it to such a use. This act extends the operation of the first refusal for one full year after a property is removed from classification under Chapter 61 forest land, Chapter 61A agricultural or horticultural, and 61B recreational land. The option had been for only 120 days.

Several of the changes noted in the legislation were for uniformity in the assessment of rollback taxes to five years and the charging of 5% interest. Forest land will be assessed, beginning in FY2009 based on a use value set by the state instead of a 5% of market value. Many other changes will occur immediately and in the next fiscal year. A detailed list of what has changed regarding chapter 61, 61A and 61B land is available in the assessor's office. The deadline for filing chapter land applications is Oct. 1.

A GIS mapping meeting was held early in September which resulted in plans for a GIS needs assessment. Our current mapping company is Cartographic Associates who maintain our base maps and have completed many GIS upgrades for us. Staff from Central Mass. Regional Planning will be reviewing our GIS needs and making recommendations. Our on-line mapping will be updated with current data this month.

Barbara Harris and Jennifer Hyland mail out the annual applications required for senior citizen, veteran and blind exemptions. Those who are not yet on our mailing list should stop by the office for a form or call 508-278-8602. Although the deadline for submission of these forms is not until 90 days after the mailing of the final tax bills for the year (usually around March 30) it is suggested they be returned by Thanksgiving Day.

BOARD OF HEALTH: Submitted by Denise Delannoy

The following is a summary of Board of Health activities for September, 2007:

Food inspections – 6	Food re-inspections – 2	Calls for service – 349
Request for copies – 23	Complaints investigated - 12	Animal complaints – 9
Phone calls – 270	Walk-ins – 79	

- Meetings held: September 6, and September 20
- September 6, 2007: Order to correct loose cows, hazard/nuisance, Rockmeadow Road
- Variance approval, 294 Oak Street, SAS (Presby System) 62' to wetlands, land slope downhill from wetlands, no well (town water)
- Variance approval, 40-42 Pinecrest Road, SAS 5' from property line (Presby System)
- Phillip Michaels, 44 Rivulet Street, old Nelmore Building: met with the Board regarding a request for a well installation at this property for water to boilers. Board approved the request stipulating the proponent grade the well uphill of the roadway.
- Sue Smith handled calls re: loose cows – evenings of 9/11- 9/13
- Cay Den Herder continues work on the Pay as You Throw program

BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Nick Gazerro

We have continuing meetings about Stanley Woolen Mill. Meeting with Fire chiefs & owners of 44 Rivulet St. Meeting with Chief Ostroskey & contractor for Prime Materials for new building. Meeting with the Gymnastic Place. Attended Building Inspectors meeting. September 2007 the number of permits issued and the fee collected is as follows:

Building Permits	28	Fee's	\$ 8,404.13
Electric Permits	30	Fee's Collected	\$ 2,220.00
Plumbing Permits	18	Fee's Collected	\$ 1,535.00
Gas Permits	18	Fee's Collected	\$ 820.00

Total Collected \$12,979.13

Following are the Building Permits that were issued during the month of September 2007.

1 Additions	2 Windows replacement	5 Roofs
3 Shed	2 Decks	2 Condo Units = 4,268sf
1 In Ground Pool	2 Sunrooms	1 Stove - Pellet
1 Temp. Tents	1 Farmer's Porch	1 Trailer due to water leak
1 Stove – Wood	1 Vinyl Siding	1 Basement Finish
1 Bathroom remodel		1 Demo House

2 of these were Commercial. There were 5 occupancy permits issued during September

CABLE ACCESS: Submitted by Barry Giles

Volunteer Training: The Video Production Classes has started the last week in September. I presently have two classes meeting on Mondays and Wednesdays for the next 6-8 weeks. The reason for the two days is to allow members flexibility in their schedules. Members will be trained in all aspects of video production including studio production, portable equipment and non-linear editing. Space is still available for either class if anyone is interested.

Registration has begun for our After School program for Middle and High School students. Classes will be held in the High School studio for students interested in learning video production.

Community Programming: The production staff has been busy covering various events in and around the Town of Uxbridge. The staff has continued to expand coverage of government and special meetings for the community. Some of the events covered in September include the Phoenix Festival, The 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, Blackstone Valley Community Concert at River Bend Farms, The Community BBQ to support victims of the Bernat Mill Fire and various events in Uxbridge.

Replays of Government Meetings on the Town Website: The computer for replays of government meetings on the town website has been installed. I plan on having the system ready by the middle of October. This computer will allow us to up load the video coverage of government meeting to the website for the community to view. Residents will be able to view meetings at their leisure from the town's website.

Cable casting Problems: I have been in contact with Charter Communications in regards to a continuing problem with channel 13. A new piece of equipment has been ordered to try and elevate this problem. The equipment should be installed within the next week or two.

High School Television Production Class: The Video Production Class at Uxbridge High has begun preparing for their first edition of The Spartan Network. The first show will be aired the second week of October. I have purchased new equipment to assists students taking the class. New cameras, a teleprompter system and new editing equipment have been order and will be installed in the next few weeks.

New Equipment Purchases: I have begun to order a new playback system for channel 12. This system will allow us to increase our playback capability. The system has a built in server that will store programming instead of having an individual device playback programming. The system also has a new and improved bulletin board system for town messages. New equipment will also be installed in the studio control room. This equipment will be replacing equipment that is no longer functional.

COUNCIL ON AGING: Submitted by Marsha Petrillo

Mini Grant from Walmart: The Senior Center is happy to announce receipt of a \$500.00 community mini grant from the Northbridge Super Walmart. The grant funds will be used to help promote and continue our special Wellness Programs: Tai Chi, Yoga and Mat Pilates. We are thankful to Linda Roberts, Senior Center Volunteer and Brenda Mateer, Good Works Coordinator at the Northbridge Walmart Superstore, for their dedication and personal commitment to others. Without their help, this grant may have gone unrealized.

2007 SMOC Award for New SMOC Applications: The Senior Center deposited an additional \$120.00 to our donations account from South Middlesex Opportunities Council for having completed 57 new SMOC (fuel assistance applications) in the winter of 2007. I thank, Mary Rice, for her hard work in assisting our residents with their applications as the process requires close attention to the personal details of each household and the subsequent gathering of several household documents to accompany the application. As we prepare for the upcoming winter season, we ask that you help us spread the word about this assistance program. If you know of anyone in need of fuel assistance, please refer them to their local senior center for assistance.

Outreach Report: Our Outreach Coordinator works 15 hours each week and is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00am – 3:00 pm and Thursdays from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

Office Visits	28	Home Visits	2
Nursing Home Visits	2	Wakes & Funerals	2
SMOC Recerts & New Applications	12	Telephone calls in & out	149
Medical Appointment	2	Cards sent	8
Nursing Home Visits	1	SHINE Meeting	1

Monthly Stastical Data: The following statistics represent the number of individuals using our transportation services, meals on wheels, luncheon attendance and attendance at our various programs for the month of September, 2007:

Van Transportation	337	Medical Transportation	73
Tai Chi	13	Card Games/Pitch	123
Meals on Wheels Delivered	2,100	Weekend meals/frozen delivered	22
Congregate Meals Served	428	Total Meals Served	2,550
Cash Turnovers	\$806.79	Phone calls in & out	831
Guestbook	546+	Super WalMart	14
Cards sent to elders	32	SCO Luncheon	30
Yoga	17	Hannaford	90
Lunch attendance	200	CVS	15
Bank/Other	8	SCO Presentation	30
Computer Classes	16	Variety Musical Show (John Gundstrom)	32
Senior Club	44	Podiatry Clinic	4

NEW SCO Insurance Options for Seniors: Medicare and Medicaid offers new comprehensive health plans that may save you money? The Senior Care Options (SCO) program was created to offer seniors aged 65 or older the opportunity to receive quality health care that combines health services with social support services. The SCO program currently provides seniors with the option of enrolling in one of three SCO health plans. The three plans available are: Commonwealth Care Alliance, Evercare, Senior Whole Health.

Look for our special video on Uxbridge cable access or call Mary Rice, our SHINE Representative at 508-278-8638 or Marsha Petrillo, Director, at 508-278-8622 to learn more about these comprehensive health care plans that may give you more benefits, including Part D, for \$0 premium.

SPECIAL THANKS: The Uxbridge Council on Aging Board and the Senior Citizens of Uxbridge extend their deep gratitude and heartfelt thanks to our firefighters, our police department, and our emergency management team for their heroic efforts and, especially for protecting our Senior Center, as they battled one of the largest mill fires in the history of our Commonwealth. As we remember our Bernat Mill Complex, we thank our local readied response teams for their courageous effort and for the spirit of cooperation which defines our community. At this time, we also want to extend our sincere thanks to the many neighboring communities who came to our aid. Our gratitude to you is great!

As many of you know, the Senior Center hosted a special luncheon to honor our Fire Department on Thursday, August 16th. At this time I would like to thank Pastor Bob Howard, of the Uxbridge Nazarene Church, for offering up a special community prayer. We thank you for your kind words and for joining us on this memorable occasion. I am particularly indebted to the music group from the Nazarene Church: Dennis Cabral, Linda Nelson, Lisa Ackerman, Deb Cnossen, and Kurt Savage for sharing their special musical talents with us. We cherish our very own, Dot Munhall, for saying grace, as she often does for us each day. Thank you so much, Dot. To Richard Provencal, our long time friend and volunteer, we give thanks for his idea to share beautiful laminated prayer cards depicting St. Florian on the front and the Firefighter's Prayer printed on back. Thank you for reading the prayer for our audience. Your ideas helped to make our luncheon a great success. Thank you Richard! We owe Fire Chief Peter J. Ostroskey, Deputy Chief William T. Kessler, Capt. Melissa Blodgett, Capt. Michael J. Legendre, Capt. Steven R. Tancrell, Firefighter Joseph R. Nedder Jr., and Paramedic Cheryl Finn for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend our honorary luncheon. Reader, I want you to know that many of our firefighters were unable to attend our luncheon because they were busy responding to

ambulance calls while others were called to man a tanker that headed out just before our lunch was served. We are sorry you could not join us at the luncheon, but send our thanks to you for your daily care of our community.

We are very proud of all who participated and shared their stories of the Bernat Mill. I thank Hester Kosiba for starting us off with her special friendship story which caused her to take time to learn the Polish language so she could better communicate with a woman under her supervision. Hester worked for 35 years as a supervisor and earned a watch and pin upon her retirement. I want to thank Lena Bonaventura and Ann M. Connors, for sharing their love stories. Lena and Ann met their husbands at the mill and remain close friends and neighbors today! Thank you Eukie Brouillette and June Hadley for sharing your special stories of the Bernat Mill. We were happy to hear from Raymond "Al" Erickson. Al represented a younger generation of workers and reminded us that the mill sustained families and provided jobs for local teenagers across the generations through the 1960's and well into the 1970's. A special thanks to Robert F. Romasco and his son, Dennis F. Romasco for displaying an original Air Force Blue Uniform manufactured at the Bernat Mill for the Army Air Force. And for sharing a special magazine printed in the 1940's outlining the mills history and depicting all the special fabrics manufactured at our Bernat Mill. What a nice surprise for all! Thank you Bob, for sharing your stories and your special memorabilia with all of us we appreciate all that you brought to help us remember. It is good to know our mill will live on in the hearts of so many of our citizens. We hope the stories will continue. If you have a special story or memory of the Bernat Mill that you would like to share, please contact Marsha Petrillo @ 508-278-8622 or Diane Pollard, Director of the Blackstone Valley Community Chorus. Diane is planning an upcoming concert to remember our Mill and we would like to include your stories. Remember, we are the stories we tell. Help us preserve our history, share a story!

Special thanks to Mary Rice, Outreach Coordinator, Susan White, Administrative Assistant, Joe Rondeau, Van Driver and Carrie Walden, Food Site Manager and all of our volunteers. Reader, Please know, you can count on the staff and volunteers at the Senior Center to lend a hand when there is a need! Thank you from my heart for showing so much care! I thank our Town Manager, Jill R. Myers, our Police Chief, Scott Freitas, Police Sgt. Peter Emerick, Selectman Kevin J. Kuros and other local officials for attending our luncheon.

Lastly, but certainly not forgotten, I am deeply indebted to our former Fire Chief, William B. Albin. Thank you, Chief, for always showing up, sometimes with next to no notice, to videotape our events for cable access. Bless you for preserving our community's memories. We send our sincere thanks to you today while our future extends its thanks tomorrow.

NEW! SEPT IS OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR OUR FALL WELLNESS PROGRAMS!

YOGA for Seniors and Friends with Sandra Waite, Fitness Instructor

TAI CHI for Seniors and Friends with Faith Kennedy, Instructor

The Senior Center will offer Mat Yoga classes for seniors and their friends beginning in September. Mat Yoga is offered on Thursdays from 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm. The class is open to Seniors and we encourage seniors to bring family members and friends while space is available. Tai Chi classes are offered every Monday beginning at 10:30 am. Our Tai Chi classes are very popular and offer open enrollment so you can join in at any time. While our wellness programs are offered free of charge to senior citizens and their family members and friends, we do suggest a voluntary donation of \$3.00 per person to help cover the costs for running these special wellness programs.

DONATION REMINDER: If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Senior Center, we ask that you make all checks and money orders payable to: THE TOWN OF UXBRIDGE. Monetary donations, payable to the Town of Uxbridge, will be deposited weekly into our donations and gift account. Please know that your donations will be used to help fund educational programs, special events, and additional services offered only at the Senior Center. If you have any questions about how to make donations to the Uxbridge Senior Center please do not hesitate to call me at 508-278-8622. We are grateful for your donations and appreciate your continued support.

COMPUTER CORNER – Classes begin Wednesday, September 5th. Computer classes are offered on Wednesday afternoon beginning at 3:30 pm and run for approximately one hour. We gear our computer classes to meet your individual needs. Please call Marsha at 508-278-8622 to enroll. I look forward to meeting you!

GROCERY SHOPPING: Attention Uxbridge Seniors: Do you need transportation to the grocery store? Did you know that we travel to Hannaford Market every Tuesday and Wednesday morning? Please contact our Transportation Coordinator, Joe Rondeau, @ 508-278-8622 to make your reservation on the van. Pickup begins at 8:30 am.

IMPORTANT NAMI NOTICE: The Tuesday night NAMI Support Group will resume on Tuesday, September 4th at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge. Please call Connie or Jim at 278-9833 if you have any questions or need more information about this important support group. This group offers support to individuals who have loved ones diagnosed with mental illness.

SENIOR CLUB: The Senior Club will resume their meeting on Wednesday, September 12th at 1:30 pm. The Senior Club meets at the Uxbridge Senior Center on the second and forth Wednesdays each month. We are looking for new members and enrollment in this group is open year round. Call the Center to learn more about us!

September 2007 - UPCOMING EVENTS

Pitch Party Every Monday Night: September 10, 17, 24th. No Pitch on Monday, Sept. 3rd. Pitch begins @ 6:30 PM ~ \$2 donation. We are always looking for new participants. We have a big comfortable Center. Just right for playing cards together. Stop by and check us out. We offer 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes, Door Prizes, and fun, fun, fun! Coffee and complimentary refreshments served each week.

Mon., Sept. 3: The Senior Center will be closed in observance of Labor Day. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Tues., Sept. 4: NAMI Support Group will resume @ 7:00 pm @ Senior Center. This group offers support to individuals who have loved ones diagnosed with mental illness.

Tues., 1:30 – 4:00 PM: Come join us for an afternoon of card playing every Tuesday at the Uxbridge Senior Center. Contact Rita @ 278-2824 for more information about this card group. All are welcome!

Wed., Sept. 5: Computer Classes begin @ 3:30 today. Call Marsha @ 508-278-8622 to enroll. Classes are geared to your individual needs. Call to enroll early - our space is limited!

Thurs., Sept. 6: SHINE Representative Mary Rice will be on hand from 9:00 am to 11:30 am to answer your medical and insurance questions. Please call Mary at 508-278-8638 to schedule an appointment to discuss Prescription Advantage, MassHealth Buy-In, Evercare, SCO, Fallon and Medicare Part D.

Thurs., Sept. 6: Super Wal-Mart Shopping –We have maps of the Wal-Mart floor plan to help you find your way through this super store! Each department is listed including the grocery store. Pickup begins @ 8:30 AM – You must call each month to reserve your seat to Wal-Mart. Sorry, we cannot save your seat from month to month. Please call if you can't make it so the next person can jump aboard from our waiting list. Thank you!

Mon., Sept. 10: The Senior Center will hold a special picnic lunch today. Lunch will be served outside at 36 South Main Street (weather permitting). Join us for this end of summer special outdoor gathering. We will serve corn chowder, potato and chicken salad together with pickled beets and a special dessert! Games & Door Prizes. Call Carrie at 508-278-7609 to make your luncheon reservation today.

Tues., Sept. 11: 5:00 pm COA Board Meeting @ 36 South Main St., Uxbridge Senior Center – All are welcome to attend.

Weds., Sept. 12: Evercare Representative, Michelle Shea, will be on hand to help and inform seniors interested in SCO and new Evercare Health Insurance Options beginning @ 10:00 am. Please call the Senior Center to make an appointment.

Sun., Sept. 16: The UNNC (The Uxbridge Newcomers and Natives Committee) will meet at The Uxbridge Senior Center @ 7:00 pm on Sunday, September 16th for craft night. Call Ann Cook and/or Janice Kimball, newly appointed Co-chairs, for more information about this fun group. Make new friends and meet your neighbors!

Mon., Sept. 17: The Senior Center will host a special musical variety show introducing: John Grundstrom, Vocalist and therapeutic recreation director from the Woodlake at Tolland facility in Tolland, CT. John specializes in songs from Al Jolson, Irving Berlin, Gene Autry, Glen Miller, Frank Sinatra, Eddie Arnold and more. John performed for 7 years on stage @ Mechanic's Hall in Worcester for the St. Vincent Hospital Variety Show and has been singing professionally since 1996. Join us for this fun luncheon musical variety show. Call Carrie @ 508-278-7609 or Susan @ 508-278-8622 to reserve your lunch today! This event is funded by way of our donation money.

Weds., Sept. 19: 1:00 – 2:30 pm Gail Trubow, our Fallon Representative will be on hand to answer your insurance health questions. You must call the Center @ 508-278-8622 to make an appointment. First come first served.

Sat., Sept. 22: SERVE New England: Distribution begins @ 10:00 AM Call 1-888-742-7363 or go online to www.serve-newengland.org to learn how you can save up to 50% and more on high-quality, fresh foods or call the Center @ 508-278-8622.

REMINDER: Transportation to and from medical appointments is available at the Senior Center. Call ahead, as soon as you book your next appointment. It is never too early to book an appointment. If you are willing, we will gladly reschedule your appointment if there is a conflict. Call Susan, at 508-278-8622 to make your medical appointment reservation.

SEPTEMBER MENU: We invite you to come and join us for lunch beginning at 12 noon daily. Let us know how you like our new meal selections. Please call Carrie Walden, Nutrition Site Manager, 48 hours in advance to reserve your meal. Carrie can be reached @ 508-278-7609. \$2 Donation per meal - \$3.50 ages 59 and under. The menu includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. Reservations must be made 48 hours in advance.

9/3	Center Closed in observance of Labor Day Holiday	9/4	Ham w/maple glaze
9/5	Roasted Chicken w/supreme sauce	9/6	Beef Marsala
9/7	Macaroni & cheese		
9/10	Picnic Lunch: Chicken Salad, Potato Salad, Pickled Beets & Corn Chowder and a special dessert from Hannafords! Games and Door Prizes offered today! Join Us. Call 278-8622 or 278-7609.		
9/11	Turkey dinner w/all the fixins	9/12	Spaghetti & Meatballs
9/13	Chicken Francese	9/14	Beef Teriyaki
9/17	Port Supreme w/mushroom sauce	9/18	Honey Baked Chicken
9/19	Swedish Meatballs	9/20	Baked Fish w/lemon pepper
9/21	Hot Dog & Roll, baked beans & coleslaw	9/24	Chicken Picatta
9/25	Stuffed Cabbage	9/26	Salmon Boat w/Dill Sauce
9/27	Turkey Dinner	9/28	Chicken Florentine

REMINDER: The Uxbridge Senior Center is a cool down center in the extreme heat. We have plenty of room and offer movies, books, puzzles and games. Bring your friends and get the party started! Please call us at 508-278-8622 if you need transportation to our center. We will be happy to assist you.

DPW: Submitted by Larry Bombara

WATER

1. Well #1 at Blackstone Street has been identified as the source of discolored water due to high concentrations of manganese. Although high concentrations of manganese results in aesthetic water quality issues, it is not harmful. Well #1 has been taken off line for further investigation and study.
2. Water line and tank replacement construction bids will be procured in October and November with construction within Town Park beginning early winter.
3. Construction funding will be requested at the fall ATM for the addition of 1 well and water line from the "Rosenfeld" well field.

WASTEWATER

1. The lime silo has been installed and electrical and telemetry is being completed for a fall startup.
2. Complete roof (29 yrs old) replacement funding is being sought at the Fall ATM

HIGHWAY

1. The bridges on River Road and Aldrich Street will be narrowed to one lane in October due to deterioration.
2. The sidewalk on Hartford Ave West in front of the Crown and Eagle will be temporarily reopened in October until permanent repairs are made.
3. The sidewalk / barrier replacement has begun at the Mumford River, Mendon Street, and will continue as weather allows under MHD jurisdiction.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Peter Ostroskey

INCIDENT REPORT: The Department responded to 154 emergency incidents including 7 fire/explosion incidents, 122 rescue/medical emergencies, 6 hazardous conditions, 7 service calls, 4 good intent calls, and 8 false alarms. We provided mutual aid to neighboring communities 12 times and received mutual aid on 9 occasions. Our personnel operated at significant incidents including:

- September 13: a building fire at 265 North Main Street damaged the front of a multi-family dwelling which was ignited by careless disposal of smoking material;
- September 20: a motor vehicle accident near 227 Blackstone Street resulted in one minor injury after the vehicle overturned and broke a telephone pole;
- September 22: a motor vehicle accident requiring extrication on Route 146 South resulted in one patient being transported to the trauma center in Worcester.

The ambulance service evaluated 125 patients, provided care and transported 107 to area hospitals. The transports were to Milford Regional Medical Center (97), U-Mass – University Campus (5), St. Vincent's Hospital (3), and Memorial Hospital (2). Advanced life support service from other agencies was involved on 64 occasions.

FIRE PREVENTION: Permits and inspections completed over the past month include 29 smoke/carbon monoxide detector inspections completed, and permits issued for blasting (4), storage of LP gas (3), install fire alarm system (1), install unvented gas heater (1) and storage of heating oil (5).

Fire Department personnel worked on several plan review projects for installation of fire alarm systems, new building construction and renovation/adaptation for new occupancies in existing structures. We have also participated in meetings and site visits relative to the above activities including site visits with the Department of Fire Services representatives acting as subject matter experts on code issues.

TRAINING: The Department started a water supply training program in a cooperative effort with the Douglas Fire Department. Members attending will receive training on pumps and hydraulics for the fire service, large diameter hose operations, drafting and use of the municipal water supply, and tanker shuttle program. This will continue through the month of October with sessions held in both communities.

Recent training sessions on other topics include crime scene awareness training presented by the Massachusetts State Police Crime Scene Services staff and compressed air foam for firefighting provided by Hale Pump Company in association with American LaFrance of Southern New England.

Two members participated in the State Weekend program at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. This program is a two day event sponsored by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Both attended sessions on Comprehensive Fire Protection Approach in a Commercial Property and Fire Behavior in Single Family Residence.

GENERAL: We are pleased to report two new members have joined our department this month. Pastor Robert Howard of the Nazarene Church has agreed to serve as our Chaplain. This is the first time since the mid-1980's that we have had someone in that position and we are happy to have Pastor Bob on board! One new auxiliary, Justin Gariepy, was appointed in September as well. Justin is a lifelong resident of Uxbridge and joins the other recently appointed members in the training program that is now under way.

On September 12 we were honored to participate in an Event of Remembrance marking the sixth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on our nation. The Department extends our most sincere gratitude for all of the support our community has shown us during the time since 9/11/01 and in particular since the recent events in Uxbridge.

We took delivery of the new ambulance purchased to replace Rescue 2. The new Osage Warrior is markedly different from the previous units as we continue to implement advanced life support services to our system. All personnel were trained on the new vehicle including driver training using a test course developed for emergency vehicle operators.

LIBRARY: Submitted by Debra Young

I. Library Program and Use & Community Relations

- A. You, Inc – EFE – GED Program was temporarily relocated to the Young Adult Program Room in the library following the Bernat Mill Fire. The teacher and students met 4 days a week from 10-1 for a 6-week period to continue this important program. September 27 was their final day. They have found a new home in the Whitinsville area.
- B. Friends of the Library met on Thursday, September 6. Friends plan to hold their annual Book & Bake Sale on Saturday, October 6 during Heritage Homecoming Weekend. The group was made aware of initial plans to close the library in the next fiscal year. They will continue to monitor the situation and gather information as needed.
- C. Taft School teachers Mrs. Bandstra and Mrs. DuBois visited the Children's Library with their classes on September 11. There were 46 in attendance. Deb Young read to the children while they waited for their lunch to arrive. Also visiting on September 26 were Mrs. Bazzett's class and Mrs. Hazard's class. Students enjoyed learning about the library and looking at materials. Some read to one and other. There were 45 in attendance. On both visits, several children received their first library card.
- D. The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) met with Deb Young on September 13. The group discussed issues facing the library including the possible closing of the library in July, 2008 and helping with the annual Book & Bake Sale. They will meet again in October to discuss a strategy and how they will approach the issue of a possible library closure.
- E. The monthly Board of Trustee meeting was held on September 18. Members discussed budget issues, staffing issues and other topics. It was announced that Library Director Susan Stanovich is out on FMLA until further notice and Assistant Library Director Deb Young is managing the library in her absence.
- F. The YA (Young Adult) summer reader's held their party on September 20 to celebrate their reading accomplishments. Pizza and soft drinks were provided by the Friends of the Library as well as prizes for some. There were 55 registered students in the YA Program this year. Deb Young organized and hosted this party for the students.

- G. The Adult Reader's Book Club met on September 24. There are currently 7 active members who attend.

II. Staff Development

The Personnel Subcommittee met with the Assistant Library Director on September 24 to finalize and sign the annual contract. Signatures are being gathered and the contract will be sent to the Town Manager and the Town Accountant to be placed on file.

III. Building and Grounds

- A. Desjardin Construction completed roof repair on September 14 and September 17. Both the front and back door roofs were worn due to the elements and had to be reconstructed. The cost of these repairs came from Library Trust Funds.
- B. Safe Home Security was called out to repair/connect the fire alarm box so that it would ring directly at the Fire Station. The town box was found to be broken as well as obsolete. No parts are available to repair it. A replacement must be made as soon as possible. The cost will be born by the Library budget. The building is currently monitored by Safe Home Security through the phone lines, but Chief Ostroskey wants the direct line going to his department as well. Board members are aware of this issue and will be working to make the necessary upgrades.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Submitted by Megan DiPrete

Summary: The attention commanded by the Bernat Mill Fire continued to reduce itself in September, although the attention regarding redevelopment of that site (proximate to the downtown and in concert with our attention on our designated Priority Development Site) began ramping up significantly.

I have been sharing an office area with Building Inspector Nick Gazerro for a full month now, as the relocations within the building proceed. We anticipate that our office relocations will be completed sometime in November. The multiple land use departments continue to interact regularly and with increasing ease. We have been working to identify areas that require standardized operating procedures for both internal and external customers, and are concurrently working to develop and implement some of those SOP's.

Projects/Meetings:

Bernat Mill. As you know, the Task Force which includes local, state, and federal officials as well as representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and Small Business Development Center, continued to meet regularly through September to address the myriad of Fire Response and Management issues. While there is still some work remaining, primarily relative to seeking reimbursement for fire expenses, the focus of this department is turned primarily to the future development activity.

I have met with officials from state agencies with programs that may apply to a public/private approach to coordinating redevelopment of the Bernat site, including the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), the Department of Workforce Training/Labor (WTF), the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Mass Development, and the Mass Office of Business Development (MOBD). I expect some of those programs to be utilized in the coming months.

The survey of information provided by displaced Bernat Mill tenants, conducted through the Chamber of Commerce, was completed in late August, and I reported on that information in mid-September. (copy attached).

Stanley Woolen Mill. Developer Nick Deane continues to communicate regularly with various town departments. The rehab effort at this location continues to experience challenges, and the Building Inspector remains actively involved on a daily basis.

43D Grant – ZBL reviews, Expedited Permitting, Permit Tracking – During the month of September, we completed the draft bylaws for amendment of the Zoning Bylaws and also of some General Bylaws in order to implement Expedited Permitting. That material is included on the warrant of Fall Town Meeting.

The Permitting Process was drafted, circulated among the Departments, and revised. The establishment (and publication) of this product was a specific requirement of the Grant award. Although it specifically applies to applications on our designated Priority Development Site, the concept of a staff-level (technical review) meeting is applicable to many development applications. We expect to utilize it regularly, and in fact have a TRC meeting scheduled for later in October regarding a development application that is not on a priority development site. (copy of “process summary” is attached)

Other Economic Development Matters: A citizens’ petition to Fall Town Meeting regarding rezoning of an area off High Street and 146 (from Agricultural to Industrial) is related to an anticipated “major non-residential development” application.

The state-level consideration of a “40-T” regulation continues. As I previously described in my report regarding an accompanying piece of legislation (HB 159), this would allow designation of a particular development area within which the property owners could have additional tools to fund infrastructure improvements. Many professional organizations have endorsed it as a means to epitomize democracy (in that those directly affected are making determinations for themselves, rather than through a representative base) and maximize financing tools available, while ensuring that costs are born only and entirely by those directly receiving the benefits.

The Four-Town group continues to meet, and is following the 40-T program as a promising opportunity for the region. The Phase I report was distributed in September. It is noteworthy that the comments regarding Uxbridge’s preferred future for the affected area (hoping it would remain agricultural) were reportedly provided by the previous town manager and planning/ed director, but not by consensus vote of any Boards. Interestingly, our current Agricultural zoning bylaws allow (by right) uses including golf course, drive-in theatres, restaurants, motels, all of which could be important components of any large-scale coordinated development effort.

Planning/Zoning Matters: The Planning Board held two regular meetings, on September 12 (including a joint meeting with the Zoning Board to review the expedited permitting regulatory proposals) and September 26, and an additional special workshop regarding the expedited permitting regulatory proposals on September 17 (including the ZBA and Board of Selectmen)

The Zoning Board met on Wednesday, September 5, and had additional 43D/Expedited Permitting workshops on September 12 and September 17. As you may have gathered from the agendas you receive, the ZBA received 22 applications during the first Quarter of FY 08. Many of these are for Determinations that a proposed use is not injurious or offensive to the neighborhood. Others are for special permits for use, or for variances. Some projects recently or currently before the boards include:

- **CVS Massachusetts LLC Special Permit:** The Special Permit is required for the store to be open twenty-four hours. The primary discussion point in recent months has been that the approved lighting had not been properly installed and so they are in the process of making those changes. The effect will be to reduce glare and over spillage to adjacent properties.
- **Down East Definitive Plan Modification:** This has been continued while other permitting is in-process. The critical issue here is how the Groundwater Protection Overlay bylaw and the Board of Health’s no-blast zones apply to this proposal.
- **Savers Bank:** Signage and traffic control issues continue to be a concern here. The applicant has now reportedly ordered the signs, although the proposed placement of some of those signs (on utility poles) continues to warrant review.

- Summerfield (also known as Taft Hill/Summerfield). The consultant submitted the marketing plan for the LIP, which the Board of Selectmen approved in late September.
- The Planning Board has received and begun processing a number of items for review in anticipation of Fall Town Meeting.
- Subdivisions, generally. Historically, land development projects apparently did not have durations (requirements to complete the project within 2 or 3 years, typically, or require further PB action). I have been working closely with DPW regarding a number of these projects in terms of work remaining, and with the Finance Director in terms of the surety provisions the town holds (both substance and form).

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Scott Freitas

During the month of September, dispatch received, responded to and/or dispatched 990 calls for service to the Police, Fire or EMS. That is 37 more calls than September of last year and is 158 less calls than last month. In the first 9 months of this year we have responded to 9319 calls. This surpasses the 2006 totals to date by 8.9. 15% of September's calls were Fire/EMS related, which usually also required a police response and 85% were strictly police related. 78 Motor vehicle citations were issued that included 106 separate violations. 12 Motor Vehicle Accidents were investigated with 4 injuries out of 22 occupants. This is same number of collisions as in September of 2006. Totals for the year 2007 compared to 2006 collisions are still up by 10. The department continues to redeploying some of our enforcement activities when available to attempt to reduce the numbers. In the first 9 months of 2007, drivers age 46 to 60 were most likely to be the operators in these collisions. Last year the major age group was ages 36 to 45. Accidents involving operators age 18 and under have increased over last year from 28 to 44 in the first 9 months. This is not a condemnation of any age group because the statistic only indicates involvement, not fault. It is the hope of this department that the changes in the driver's education and younger driving regulations will make an impact on reducing collisions in the 18 and under age group but the law only went into effect this month and it is way too early to tell if it will work. Regardless of age, all operators of motor vehicles need to buckle up, obey the speed limit, and drive courteously.

Please be advised that the traffic pattern has changed on the Quaker Highway at Chocolog Road. The stop sign has been removed by Mass Highway and drivers going north on 146A and turning left need to yield the right of way to southbound 146A traffic.

41 arrests or applications for criminal complaints were made this month. Two were for domestic violence situations. Three were for Drunk Driving. Just like last month, overwhelmingly Wednesday was the day in which the most arrests occurred. The majority of arrests were of people in the age groups 25-34. There were 3 arrests for persons age 11-17. Overall this year arrests are up 10.5% over last year. Private police details continue at the Bernat Mill Complex will do so for some time to come. As a reminder trespassing on that site and on the R.R. tracks is against the law. Our overall clearance rate for major crime remains above both the New England States and National average for departments our size. Common sense crime prevention techniques are encouraged in an effort to keep all residents and visitors to Uxbridge safe. Beware of internet scams as they continue in town and all over the country. The scams can be checked out at a variety of websites including but not limited to the IACP website at www.idsafety.org.

Although not as frequent, relative to road construction, some traffic patterns are once again an issue with the bridge work on route 16 and the traffic patterns are apt to change quickly due to the needs of the project on a daily basis. Restricted traffic to vehicles under 6 tons gross registered weight is in effect on E. Hartford Avenue at Whitin Street.

I attended my first meetings this month as a member of the Central Mass Regional Homeland Security Council after appointment by Public Safety Secretary Burke and look forward to serving on that committee.

Training: Sgt Peter Emerick and I attended incident command 300 training and I attending Incident Command 400 training. These are requirements of the U.S. Government for public safety and some other governmental

leaders in all communities across the country. Detective Jody Dwight attended a symposium on organized retail crime and Sgt. Michael Wilson and Officer Josiah Morrisette were given a refresher course in firearms licensing. Other training sessions will be scheduled during the upcoming months for many officers including annual in service training, subject to available funding. .

Emergency Management: The efforts are ongoing to the town's new radio antennae system which should be completed soon we are only waiting for delivery of a few more items to complete the project.

Grants: We are still waiting for word on our applications for the Ocean State Community Foundation and the Task Force Grants.

Animal Control: The Animal Control officer responded to at least 36 complaints in the month of August in Uxbridge. We interviewed an applicant for the Per Diem Animal Control Officer positions but others may apply. Susan Banner has been appointed by the Town Manager to the per diem position and will start training in October. This position(s) is to cover weekends and holidays. Anyone interested can contact the Uxbridge Police Department for application forms and a job description. This is a stipend position. Work began this month in preparing a presentation to the Board of Selectmen relative to regulations regarding licensing of kennels in Town. This work will hopefully be completed for submission by this fall.

TOWN CLERK: Submitted by Joseph Kaplan

VITAL RECORDS: In the month of September we have recorded with the Secretary of State: 9 birth certificates, 9 marriage certificates, 7 death certificates.

On the 10th of each month a state report is required regarding the number of births, marriages, and deaths that have been processed by the Town Clerk's Office. We issued: 33 certified copies of birth, 9 certified copies of marriage, 27 certified copies of death.

REQUESTS/CERTIFICATES/LICENSES ISSUED: 9 business certificates, 5 couples filing new marriage intentions, 21 dog licenses

OTHER ITEMS: 6 street list books sold, 28 notarizations performed

TURNOVERS: Our office handles the dog licenses as well as processing the funds collected for the licenses, late fees and fines by the Animal Control Officer.

The total amount of funds turned over to the Treasurer/Collector's Office for the month of September was \$1,213.00

VOTER REGISTRATION: We processed thirty-five (35) voter registration applications in the month of September. The state voter registration forms are multi-purpose; they may be used to register to vote, change party affiliation of currently-registered voters, or to notify the registrars of a change of name or Uxbridge address.

Fifty-one (51) voters were removed from the registration roles. Voters are removed when we receive notice that they have moved or passed away. Voters may also request that their names be removed from the registration roster. The unusually high number of deletes is attributed to returned confirmation cards returned by voters notifying us that they have moved. The confirmation cards are mailed, as required by state law, to all voters who have not answered the census.

PUBLIC OUTREACH: I organized a meeting of Diane Robin's Leadership class from Uxbridge High School. On Tuesday, September 18 her students met with various town departments heads to discuss the functions of town government. I met with Worcester County Sheriff Guy Glodis, who graciously offered to be of any

assistance at my request. A press release regarding the October 31 voter registration deadline to participate in the Fall Town Meeting was issued.

U.S. CENSUS: I am reviewing material from the U. S. Census Bureau regarding the municipal requires for participation in the 2010 federal census. There are many mandates to meet in the very near future. I will be in contact with the bureau's field representatives to work out a plan for the town to meet all legal requirements.

CUSTOMER SERVICE: Research, which entails 20 – 25 hours per month, Genealogy, Swearing in of committee members, new police officers, and public officials.

STAFF: I will be meeting with students from Uxbridge High School on Tuesday, October 2 to discuss possible volunteer opportunities and/or internships.

DOG LICENSES: I have been working with the Police Chief and Animal Control Officer to develop a streamlined form for dog licenses, which we will have in place for calendar year 2008.

BOARD OF REGISTRARS: The voter registrars will be staffing the Clerk's Office from 4pm to 8pm on Wednesday, October 31, the deadline to register to vote for the annual fall town meeting.

PRIORITIES: Start Process for the 2010 Federal Census, Complete Dog License Form update, Begin Update of Dog Kennel License, Prepare Annual Report, Streamline "Doing Business As" (DBA) Certificate Process, Prepare for the 2007 Annual Fall Town Meeting.